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ABSTRACT

A computer program was developed to compute the average Cooperative Reading Test-Total (COOP-T) scores, and the average School and College Ability Test-Total (SCAT-T) scores for students who took either one or both of these aptitude tests and enrolled at Santa Ana College (SAC) between 1969 and 1974. The averages were computed as a mean of the percentile ranking of the students taking either one of the tests. In addition, the mean GPA was computed by entering term for students who earned a non-zero GPA while at SAC. While the mean COOP-T reading scores show a general downward trend over the past six years, the SCAT-T scores have been constant (within a small range). The mean GPA of students who took either the SCAT or COOP test has been increasing over the past six years. This trend is consistent with the general trend of the mean total GPA at SAC. Data are organized into four tables and three graphs. (Author/NHM)

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SIX YEAR TREND OF THE COOP-T AND SCAT-T SCORES OF STUDENTS ENROLLING AT SANTA ANA COLLEGE

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September 1975

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SIX YEAR TREND OF THE COOP-T AND SCAT-T
SCORES OF STUDENTS ENROLLING AT
SANTA ANA COLLEGE

A question was raised as to whether or not there has been a drop in the scores received by students who take the SCAT and COOP reading tests and enroll for class at Santa Ana College (SAC).

A program was developed to answer this question.[1] The program computed the average COOP-T reading and the average SCAT-T scores for students who took either one or both of these tests and enrolled in SAC. These averages were computed as a mean of the percentile ranking of the students taking either one of the tests. Also, the mean G.P.A. was computed by entering term for students who earn a non-zero G.P.A. while at SAC. The G.P.A.'s are shown in Table 1 and Graph 1.

While the G.P.A.'s of students who took the SCAT or COOP tests have been increasing during the past six years, there has been a definite decrease in the COOP-T scores during the past six years. This can be seen from Graph 2. The graph shows a definite decline in the average test scores since 1969. This is true for all three entering terms, although test scores of entrants during the summer school term show an upward trend during the past two years. Table 2 lists these statistics for each of the six years and by the entering term.

While the mean COOP-T scores have shown a downward trend during the past six years, the same is not true for the average

SCAT-T scores during the six year period. Table 3 and Graph 3 show that the range of these test scores is consistently between scores of 45 and 50 during the six years in the study. There is some variability in the test scores received by students who entered during different school terms, but statistically this is not important because of the short time period being studied.

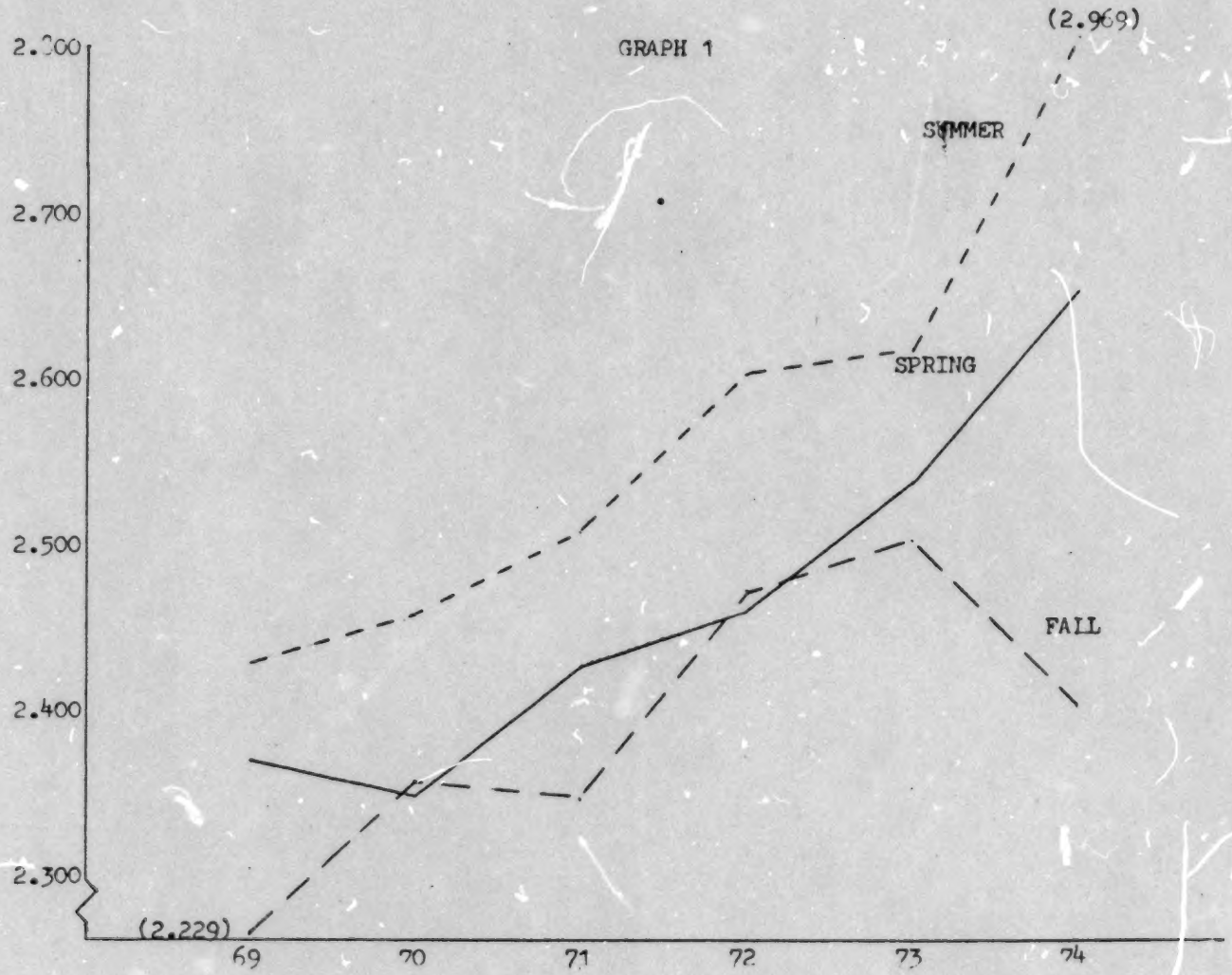
In summary, it can be concluded from the statistics presented in this report that the mean COOP-T reading scores of students who enrolled at SAC during the past six years show a general downward trend. The SCAT-T scores of students who enrolled at SAC do not show a downward trend, but seem to be constant (within a small range) during the past six years. Lastly, the mean G.P.A. of students who took either the SCAT or COOP test has been increasing during the past six years. This trend is consistent with the general trend of the mean total G.P.A. of SAC.[2]

MEAN NON-ZERO GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF STUDENTS TAKING THE COOP-T READING AND/OR SCAT-T TEST BY ENTERING SEMESTER

ENTERING TERM

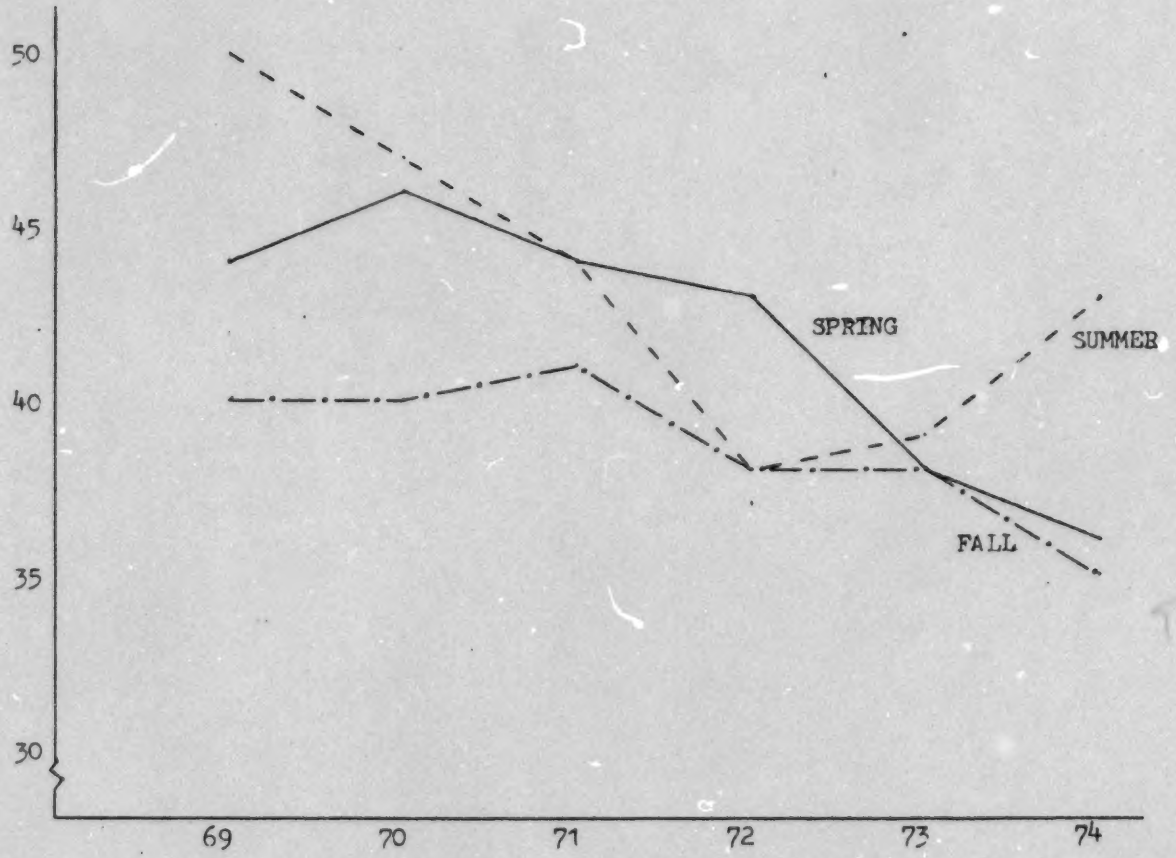
YEAR	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
1969	2.369	2.429	2.229
1970	2.347	2.456	2.355
1971	2.425	2.506	2.346
1972	2.459	2.602	2.471
1973	2.539	2.619	2.504
1974	2.654	2.969	2.40[illegible]

TABLE 1



SIX YEAR TREND OF MEAN NON-ZERO
GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF STUDENTS
TAKING THE COOP-T READING AND/OR
SCAT-T TEST BY ENTERING SEMESTER

GRAPH 2



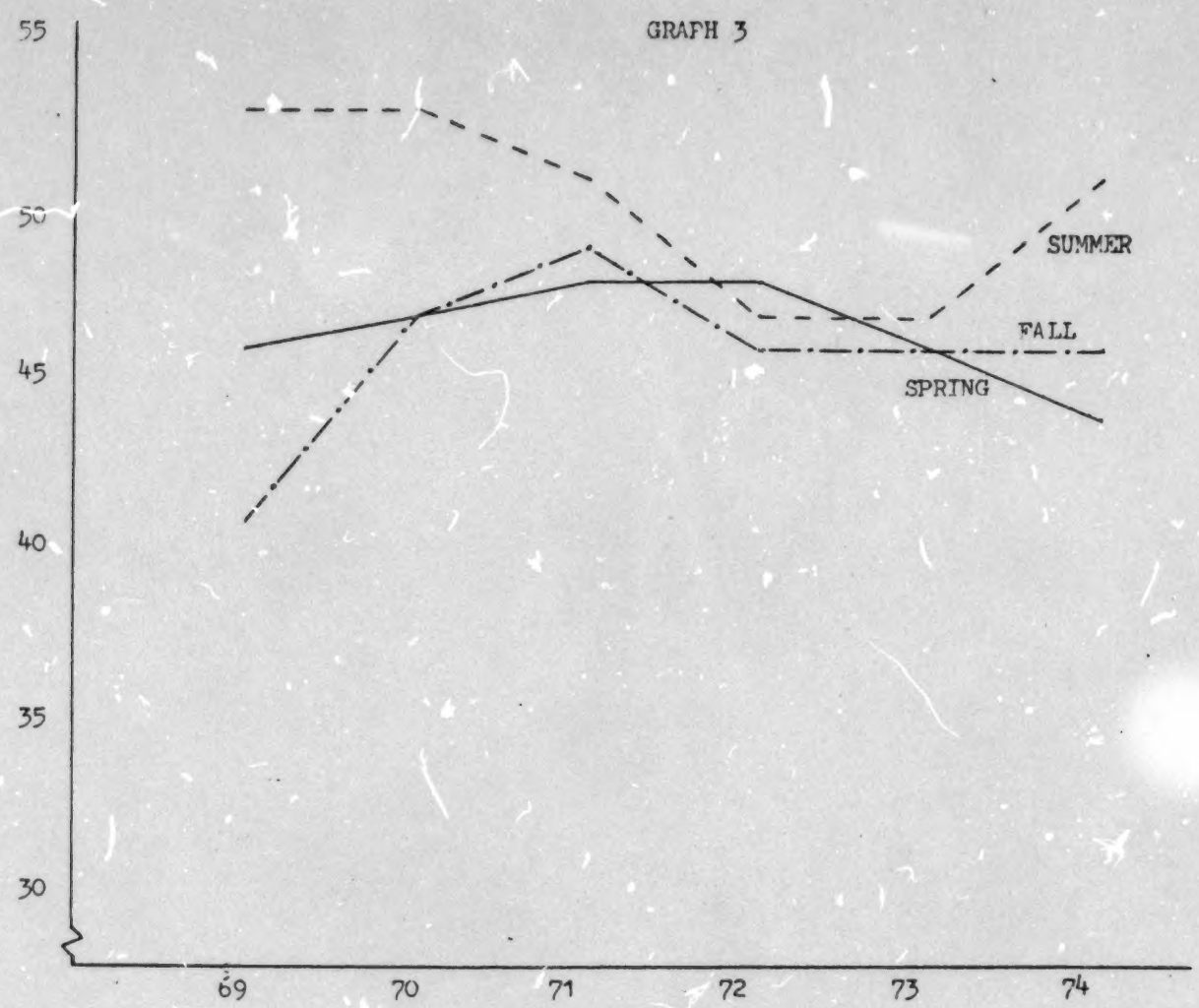
SIX YEAR TREND OF AVERAGE COOP-T
READING BY ENTERING SEMESTER

AVERAGE COOP-T READING SCORES BY ENTERING SEMESTER

	ENTERING TERM		
YEAR	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
1969	44	50	40
1970	46	47	40
1971	44	44	41
1972	43	38	37
1973	38	39	38
1974	36	43	35

TABLE 2

GRAPH 3



SIX YEAR TREND OF AVERAGE
SCAT-T SCORES BY ENTERING
SEMESTER

AVERAGE SCAT-T SCORES BY ENTERING SEMESTER

ENTERING TERM

YEAR	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
1969	46	53	41
1970	47	53	47
1971	48	51	49
1972	48	47	46
1973	46	47	46
1974	44	51	46

TABLE 3

NUMBER OF SANTA ANA COLLEGE
STUDENTS WHO TOOK EITHER
THE COOP-T READING OR SCAT-T
TESTS BY ENTERING SEMESTER

ENTERING TERM

YEAR	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
1969	553	,383	1687
1970	565	232	1786
1971	1087	434	2062
1972	945	295	1781
1973	926	276	1770
1974	616	427	1637

TABLE 4

1. This program was developed by Jack Breglio, Director of Computer Center at SAC. Without his assistance this study would have been impossible to complete. (The program number used in this study is RP8215).

2. This trend is documented in "An Analysis of Increasing Grade Point Averages and the Effect of Work Experience Grades on Grade Point Averages at Santa Ana College", by Robert Daly, Institutional Research Office, Santa Ana College. Copies are available upon request.

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